

## NORTH WALSHAM & DILHAM CANAL TRUST

In co-operation with the East Anglian Waterways Association Ltd

Subject: Work-party at Ebridge spillway  
Date: Sunday 30th July 2017  
From: Chris Black, NW&DCT.

### THE PLAN:

-To place concrete in the retaining wall shuttering to the height determined by the top end of the spillway facing wall, sloping down to the bottom timbers.

WORK ACHIEVEMENT: I was awoken in the early hours of Sunday morning by lightning. It was violent at times and brought a lot of rain so I was not surprised, when I arrived on site, to see the canal water running over (and under!) the spillway. Water was gushing through and around our plywood former which meant that we had to get it drier before pouring concrete. We raised the east paddle on the lock and the water running under the spillway cap gradually halted, as did the water running through the shuttering. Eventually the canal water ceased to flow through the spillway – this occurred when the canal water level had dropped by about a foot. This is interesting as it indicates that the cracks that we suspect are in the face must be at approximately a foot down.

With 11 volunteers on site we had a lot of people to mix and barrow the concrete but before starting the concrete infill we had to make sure that there was no water running through the former. Clay was used to seal all the joints which made sure that concrete did not escape through the former and to be doubly sure we formed a sump at the bottom end of the former to capture any water that may have come into contact with the cement. This was regularly monitored and bucketed out to be disposed of well away from the soke dyke water course. We started with a relatively dry mix and gradually progressed down the slope.

Lunch was called at 13.15

Lunch over we resumed the concreting then levelling it off to a string line. Unfortunately we were a bag short of all-in sand so there is a small piece to complete next Sunday. Bricks are to be laid on top of the retaining wall and formed at the top to prevent water running behind it.

We cleared up the site and took the tools back to Spa Common.

The work-party ceased at approx 16.00.

Chris Black,  
Work party leader.